



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

***Raised Bill No. 300***

LCO No. 1318

\* \_\_\_\_\_SB00300KIDHS030404\_\_\_\_\_\*

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:  
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING SPECIAL STUDY FOSTER CARE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17a-114 of the general statutes, as amended by  
2 section 7 of public act 03-243, is repealed and the following is  
3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2004*):

4 (a) As used in this section, "licensed" means a person holds a license  
5 issued by the Department of Children and Families to provide foster  
6 care, including foster care of a specific child, and "special study foster  
7 parent" means a person who is twenty-one years of age or older and  
8 who does not hold a license issued by the Department of Children and  
9 Families to provide foster care.

10 [(a)] (b) (1) No child in the custody of the Commissioner of Children  
11 and Families shall be placed with any person, unless such person is  
12 licensed by the department. [for that purpose.] Any person licensed by  
13 the department [to accept placement of a child is deemed to be  
14 licensed to accept placement as a foster family or prospective adoptive  
15 family] may be a prospective adoptive parent. The commissioner shall  
16 adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to

17 establish the licensing procedures and standards.

18 (2) The commissioner shall require each applicant for licensure  
19 pursuant to this section and any person sixteen years of age or older  
20 living in the household of such applicant to submit to state and  
21 national criminal history records checks prior to issuing a license to  
22 such applicant to accept placement of a child. Such criminal history  
23 records checks shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a.  
24 The commissioner shall also check the state child abuse registry  
25 established pursuant to section 17a-101k for the name of such  
26 applicant and for the name of any person sixteen years of age or older  
27 living in the household of such applicant for perpetrator information.

28 [(b)] (c) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection [(a)] (b) of  
29 this section, the commissioner may place a child with a relative who is  
30 not licensed or, if the child is fourteen years of age or older, with a  
31 special study foster parent for a period of up to ninety days when such  
32 placement is in the best interests of the child, provided a satisfactory  
33 home visit is conducted, a basic assessment of the family is completed  
34 and such relative or special study foster parent attests that such  
35 relative or special study foster parent and any adult living within the  
36 household [have] has not been convicted of a crime or arrested for a  
37 felony against a person, for injury or risk of injury to or impairing the  
38 morals of a child, or for the possession, use or sale of a controlled  
39 substance. Any such relative or special study foster parent who accepts  
40 placement of a child in excess of such ninety-day period shall be  
41 subject to licensure by the commissioner, except that any such relative  
42 who, prior to July 1, 2001, had been certified by the commissioner to  
43 provide care for a related child may continue to maintain such  
44 certification if such relative continues to meet the regulatory  
45 requirements and the child remains in such relative's care. The  
46 commissioner may grant a waiver from such procedure or standard,  
47 except any safety standard, for a child placed with a relative, [on a  
48 case-by-case basis, from such procedure or standard, except any safety  
49 standard,] based on the home of the relative and the needs and best

50 interests of such child. The reason for any waiver granted shall be  
51 documented in writing. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in  
52 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish certification  
53 procedures and standards for a caretaker who is a relative of such  
54 child.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2004</i>

***KID***

***Joint Favorable C/R***

**HS**